LONDON BOROUGH OF CAMDEN

WARDS: All

REPORT TITLE

An Investigation on the Effectiveness of Children's SEND Provision in Camden

REPORT OF

SEND Provision Scrutiny Panel – Cllr Sylvia McNamara (Chair), Cllr Lotis Bautista, Margaret Harvey, Cllr Jenny Headlam-Wells, Sarah Jafri, Cllr Nanouche Umeadi, and Dr Rachel Wrangham.

FOR SUBMISSION TO

DATE

Children, Schools and Families Scrutiny Committee

8 October 2024

SUMMARY OF REPORT

In September 2023, a scrutiny panel was established by the Children Schools and Families (CSF) Scrutiny Committee to investigate the provision for children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) in Camden - 'the SEND Provision Scrutiny Panel'. The Panel was created in response to issues raised with the Committee Members by many parents and professionals in relation to that service area. The Panel has spoken to a wide range of stakeholders, including schools, parents/carers and officers to hear as many perspectives as possible on Camden's SEND provision. This report sets out their main findings from the enquiry and ensuing recommendations.

Local Government Act 1972 – Access to Information

No documents that are required to be listed were used in the preparation of this report.

Contact Officer:

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RECOMMENDATIONS

The Children, Schools and Families Scrutiny Committee is asked to:

- 1. Note the report.
- 2. Agree to request the Cabinet Member for Best Start for Children and Families to prepare a response to the SEND Provision Scruitny Panel's recommendations, to report back to a future Committee.

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Signed:

Councillor Sylvia McNamara, Chair of the SEND Provision Scrutiny Panel

Date: 26 September 2024

1 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 This report is a summary of the findings and recommendations of the SEND Provision Scrutiny Panel, reporting to the Camden's Children, Schools and Families (CSF) Scrutiny Committee in October 2024.
- 1.2 The CSF Scrutiny Committee agreed to establish the SEND Provision Scrutiny Panel and agreed its terms of reference at the <u>Committee meeting held on 7 September 2023</u>, with an additional update to the terms of reference agreed at the <u>Committee meeting held on 9 November 2023</u>.
- 1.3 The task of the Panel was to investigate the provision for children with SEND in Camden.
- 1.4 The Panel was created in response to issues raised with the Committee members by many parents and professionals in relation to that service area.
- 1.5 The Panel has spoken to a wide range of stakeholders, including schools, parents/carers and officers to hear as many perspectives as possible on Camden's SEND provision. This report sets out their main findings from the enquiry and ensuing recommendations.

2 Legal comments of the Borough Solicitor

The Borough Solicitor has been consulted on the report and has no comments to make to the report.

3 Finance Comments of the Executive Director Corporate Services

The Executive Director of Corporate Services notes the contents of this report and notes that delivery of any recommendations in this report will need to be contained within the existing medium term financial strategy.

4 Environmental Implications

There are no environmental implications arising from this report.

5 Appendices

Appendix A – An Investigation on Effectiveness of Children's SEND provision in Camden